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#17

PATENT  
Docket No. 20296-20013.01  
Client Ref. MoFo 13.01

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 18, 1996.

*Jennifer L. Taylor*  
Jennifer L. Taylor

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

B. Chen et al.

Serial No.: 08/704,445

Filing Date: August 26, 1996

For: METHOD OF PREVENTING  
DEPLETION OF NON-AUTOLOGOUS  
HEMATOPOIETIC CELLS AND  
ANIMAL MODEL SYSTEMS FOR USE  
THEREOF

Examiner: S. Ziska

Group Art Unit: 1804

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the issues raised in the Office Action issued March 5, 1996 (the "March 5, 1996 Office Action"), in the parent application (Serial No. 08/169,293) upon which the above-referenced file wrapper continuation application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.62 was filed.

Prior to examination of this application on the merits, Applicants request that the following remarks and the attached Declaration of Ben Chen be considered by the Examiner.